

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1. (canceled)

1 2. (currently amended) The bone screw according to
2 claim 11, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein a third screwthread portion
3 [(10)] extending from the second screwthread portion [(8)] has
4 recesses [(9)] of constant size.

1 3. (currently amended) The bone screw according to
2 claim 11, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein in the second screwthread
3 portion [(8)] and in the third screwthread portion [(10)] every
4 360° several recesses [(9)] are formed.

1 4. (currently amended) The bone screw according to
2 claim 3, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein every 360° three recesses
3 [(9)] are formed.

1 5. (currently amended) The bone screw according to
2 claim 11, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein each recess [(9)] extends
3 as a chord toward the screw shank [(3)] from the cutting edges
4 [(7)] of the second screwthread portion [(8)] and of the third
5 screwthread portion [(10)] and joins in an arc again the
6 respective cutting edge [(7)].

1 6. (currently amended) The bone screw according to
2 claim 11, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the screw shank ~~[(3)]~~ has
3 a cylindrical form.

1 7. (currently amended) The bone screw according to
2 claim 11, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the screw shank ~~[(3)]~~ has
3 a tapered form.

1 8. (currently amended) The bone screw according to
2 claim 11, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the first screwthread
3 portion ~~[(6)]~~ comprises three turns.

1 9. (currently amended) The bone screw according to
2 claim 11, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the second screwthread
3 portion ~~[(8)]~~ comprises three turns.

1 10. (currently amended) The bone screw according to
2 claim 7, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the lengths of the cutting
3 edges ~~[(7)]~~ of the turns of the second screwthread portion
4 ~~[(8)]~~ are constant.

1 11. (new) A bone screw comprising:
2 an elongated shank having a free end and at an opposite
3 end a screw head;
4 a screwthread extending generally helically along the
5 shank from the free end toward the screw head and itself having
6 a first screwthread portion extending from the free
7 end toward the screw head and forming a
8 generally continuous and smooth cutting edge,
9 and
10 a second screwthread portion extending from the
11 first portion toward the screw head and formed
12 of a plurality of turns each formed with at
13 least one outwardly open recess, the recesses
14 being of increasing angular dimension away from
15 the free end.

1 12. (new) A bone screw comprising:
2 an elongated shank having a free end and at an opposite
3 end a screw head;
4 a screwthread extending generally helically along the
5 shank from the free end toward the screw head and itself having
6 a first screwthread portion extending from the free
7 end toward the screw head forming a generally
8 continuous and smooth cutting edge,
9 a second screwthread portion extending from the
10 first portion toward the screw head and formed
11 of a plurality of turns each formed with at
12 least one outwardly open recess, the recesses
13 being of increasing angular dimension away from
14 the free end, and
15 a third screwthread portion extending from the
16 second portion toward the screw head and formed
17 of a plurality of turns each formed with at
18 least one outwardly open recesses, all of the
19 recesses of the third portion being of
20 generally the same angular dimension.

1 13. (new) The bone screw defined in claim 12 wherein
2 the angular dimension of the recesses of the third portion
3 corresponds substantially to the angular dimension of that turn of
4 the second portion closest to the third portion.